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May 12, 2000

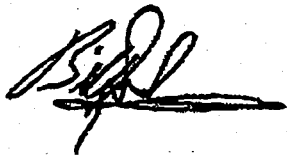
Dear Congressman Dreier,

Thank you for contacting me concerning the People's Republic of China. I have great respect for China's long and rich heritage, and I am grateful for the opportunities I have had to visit that great country. It has been a tremendous privilege to get to know many of its leaders and also to become familiar with the actual situation of religious believers in the P.R.C.

The current debate about establishing Permanent Normal Trade Relations with China raises many complex and difficult questions. I do not want to become involved in the political aspects of this issue. However, I continue to be in favor of strengthening our relationship with China. I believe it is far better for us to thoughtfully strengthen positive aspects of our relationship with China than to treat it as an adversary. In my experience, nations can respond to friendship just as much as people do.

While I will not be releasing a formal public statement on the PNTR debate, please feel free to share my view with your colleagues. May God give you and all of your colleagues His wisdom as you debate this important issue.

Cordially yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Billy", with a horizontal line underneath.

The Honorable David Dreier
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-6269

By fax: (202)225-7018